

REMARKS

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 15, 18, 19, 26, 27, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention.

All rejected terms have been corrected.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 15, 16, 19-22, and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for being anticipated by Giers, US 2006/0220447 A1. Additionally, claims 15 and 28 were rejected for being anticipated by Yamamoto et al., US 4014414.

Yamamoto was also the basis for a §103(a) rejection of claims 19-22.

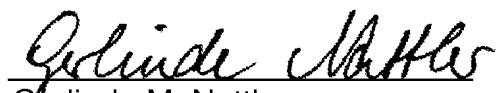
Since claim 17 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the limitations of claims 16 and 17 have been included in amended claim 15. Accordingly claims 16 and 17 have been canceled.

Thus, amended claim 15, represents claim 17 rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of claims 16 and 17.

CONCLUSION

Since claim 17 has been indicated to be allowable, Applicant believes that the application is now in shape for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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